



**Bridget Fleming**  
*Suffolk County Legislator*  
*Second District*

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For Immediate Release  
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**MEDIA ALERT: NARCAN TRAINING AND DRUG GIVE BACK**  
**WHEN: THURSDAY, AUGUST 25<sup>th</sup> AT 6:30 PM**  
**WHERE: MONTAUK FIREHOUSE, 12 FLAMINGO AVENUE**

## ***LEGISLATOR BRIDGET FLEMING TO HOST NARCAN TRAINING AND DRUG GIVE BACK IN MONTAUK***



**CAPTION: Legislator Fleming hosts the first of a series of Narcan trainings for the East End at the Sag Harbor Fire Department on Tuesday, August 9<sup>th</sup>.**

On Thursday, August 25, 2016 at 6:30 P.M. Suffolk County Legislator Bridget Fleming in conjunction with County Executive Steve Bellone, Suffolk County Department of Health Services, East Hampton Town Police, Suffolk County Sheriff's Office, HUGS, Inc., Thomas' Hope, and Concerned Citizens of Montauk will be hosting a NARCAN training session and prescription drug disposal at the Montauk Firehouse. The event was organized by Legislator Fleming in an effort to inform the community and bring awareness to the heroin and opiate epidemic in Suffolk County that is a serious public health threat to our young people.

The event will include presentations by Linda Ventura of Thomas' Hope and Kym Laube of HUGS, Inc. on substance abuse and addiction, and a NARCAN training class taught by East Hampton Town Police Officer Ken Alversa. Refreshments will be provided by Concerned Citizens of Montauk. All training participants over the age of 16 years old will receive the overdose rescue kit with the NARCAN antidote. There will also be a drug disposal box in the room where unwanted prescription drugs can be dropped and will be properly disposed of by the East Hampton Town Police Department.

"Heroin use and the abuse of prescription painkillers has become a major public health threat among our young people, so it is important that we educate them so that they can

make healthy choices,” said Legislator Fleming. “It is also important that our community is well equipped with the tools needed to fight addiction and prevent overdoses, and I believe that this training and drug take back is a good first step. I hope that no one ever has to administer the NARCAN antidote, but if there is a need for it, this training may help to save a life, rather than a family losing a loved one to drug overdose.”

Recent reports show Suffolk County as having the most heroin related deaths between 2009 and 2013, with over 300 deaths in the County. This is the largest amount of people to die in a 60 month span in any county in the State of New York. The number of overdoses in Suffolk County is greater than that of Brooklyn and the Bronx combined.

“We must have all of the tools in our arsenal to combat the opioid epidemic affecting our Country and our region,” said County Executive Steve Bellone. “Ensuring that our medical personnel and residents have access to and can administer Narcan is of paramount importance as we all work together to combat this epidemic.”